

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

FIRST AMERICAN CINEMA, LLC, a
California limited liability company,

Plaintiff,

v.

Screen Media Ventures, LLC, *et al.*,

Defendants

Case No.: 2:18-cv-03703-GHW-MRW

*[Assigned for all purposes to the
Honorable Judge George H. Wu]*

**~~PROPOSED~~ STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section 12.3, below, that this Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them to file confidential information under seal; Civil Local Rule 79-5 sets forth the

1 procedures that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a
2 party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal.

3 1.2. GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT

4 This action involves confidential license and distribution agreements, data, and
5 information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for
6 any purpose other than prosecution of this action is warranted. Such confidential
7 and proprietary materials and information consist of, among other things,
8 confidential business or financial information, information regarding confidential
9 business practices, or other commercial information (including information
10 implicating privacy rights of third parties), information otherwise generally
11 unavailable to the public, or which may be privileged or otherwise protected from
12 disclosure under state or federal statutes, court rules, case decisions, or common
13 law. Accordingly, to expedite the flow of information, to facilitate the prompt
14 resolution of disputes over confidentiality of discovery materials, to adequately
15 protect information the parties are entitled to keep confidential, to ensure that the
16 parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses of such material in preparation for
17 and in the conduct of trial, to address their handling at the end of the litigation, and
18 serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information is justified in this
19 matter. It is the intent of the parties that information will not be designated as
20 confidential for tactical reasons and that nothing be so designated without a good
21 faith belief that it has been maintained in a confidential, non-public manner, and
22 there is good cause why it should not be part of the public record of this case.

23
24 2. DEFINITIONS

25 2.1. Action: *First American Cinema, LLC v. Screen Media Ventures, LLC,*
26 *et al.*, Case No.: 2:18-cv-03703.

27 2.2. Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the
28 designation of information or items under this Order.

1 2.3. “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items: information (regardless of
2 how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for
3 protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in
4 the Good Cause Statement.

5 2.4. Counsel: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as
6 their support staff).

7 2.5. Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or
8 items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as
9 “CONFIDENTIAL.”

10 2.6. Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless
11 of the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,
12 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced
13 or generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

14 2.7. Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter
15 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve
16 as an expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.

17 2.8. House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action.
18 House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside
19 counsel.

20 2.9. Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association,
21 or other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

22 2.10. Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a
23 party to this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action
24 and have appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law
25 firm which has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

26 2.11. Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors,
27 employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their
28 support staffs).

1 2.12. Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or
2 Discovery Material in this Action.

3 2.13. Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation
4 support services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or
5 demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)
6 and their employees and subcontractors.

7 2.14. Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is
8 designated as "CONFIDENTIAL."

9 2.15. Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery
10 Material from a Producing Party.

11
12 3. SCOPE

13 The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only
14 Protected Material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or
15 extracted from Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or
16 compilations of Protected Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or
17 presentations by Parties or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material.

18 Any use of Protected Material at trial will be governed by the orders of the
19 trial judge. This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material at trial.

20
21 4. DURATION

22 Even after final disposition of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations
23 imposed by this Order will remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees
24 otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs. Final disposition will be
25 deemed to be the later of (1) dismissal of all claims and defenses in this Action,
26 with or without prejudice; and (2) final judgment herein after the completion and
27 exhaustion of all appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews of this Action,
28

1 including the time limits for filing any motions or applications for extension of
2 time pursuant to applicable law.

3
4 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

5 5.1. Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.

6 Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under
7 this Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that
8 qualifies under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for
9 protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written
10 communications that qualify so that other portions of the material, documents,
11 items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept
12 unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order.

13 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations
14 that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper
15 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to
16 impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the
17 Designating Party to sanctions.

18 If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that information or items that it
19 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must
20 promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the inapplicable designation.

21 5.2. Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in
22 this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise
23 stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection
24 under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or
25 produced.

26 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

27 (a) for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic
28 documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial

1 proceedings), that the Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend
2 "CONFIDENTIAL" (hereinafter "CONFIDENTIAL legend"), to each page that
3 contains protected material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page
4 qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the
5 protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

6 A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for
7 inspection need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party
8 has indicated which documents it would like copied and produced. During the
9 inspection and before the designation, all of the material made available for
10 inspection will be deemed "CONFIDENTIAL." After the inspecting Party has
11 identified the documents it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must
12 determine which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this
13 Order. Then, before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party must
14 affix the "CONFIDENTIAL legend" to each page that contains Protected Material.
15 If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the
16 Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making
17 appropriate markings in the margins).

18 (b) for testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party identify
19 the Disclosure or Discovery Material on the record, before the close of the
20 deposition all protected testimony.

21 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary and for
22 any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the
23 exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the legend
24 "CONFIDENTIAL." If only a portion or portions of the information warrants
25 protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, will identify the
26 protected portion(s).

27 5.3. Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent
28 failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive

1 the Designating Party's right to secure protection under this Order for such
2 material. Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make
3 reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the
4 provisions of this Order.

5
6 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

7 6.1. Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a
8 designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court's
9 Scheduling Order.

10 6.2. Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party will initiate the dispute
11 resolution process (and, if necessary, file a discovery motion) under Local Rule
12 37.1 et seq.

13 6.3. The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding will be on
14 the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper
15 purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other
16 parties) may expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating
17 Party has waived or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all parties will
18 continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is
19 entitled under the Producing Party's designation until the Court rules on the
20 challenge.

21
22 7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

23 7.1. Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is
24 disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this
25 Action only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Such
26 Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under
27 the conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a
28

1 Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL
2 DISPOSITION).

3 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a
4 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons
5 authorized under this Order.

6 7.2. Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items. Unless
7 otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a
8 Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated
9 "CONFIDENTIAL" only to:

10 (a) the Receiving Party's Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as
11 well as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably
12 necessary to disclose the information for this Action;

13 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of
14 the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action;

15 (c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom
16 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the
17 "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" (Exhibit A);

18 (d) the Court and its personnel;

19 (e) court reporters and their staff;

20 (f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional
21 Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have
22 signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" (Exhibit A);

23 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
24 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

25 (h) during their depositions, witnesses, and attorneys for witnesses, in
26 the Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing
27 party requests that the witness sign the form attached as Exhibit A hereto; and (2)
28 they will not be permitted to keep any confidential information unless they sign

1 the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" (Exhibit A), unless otherwise
2 agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed
3 deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may
4 be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone
5 except as permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order; and

6 (i) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel,
7 mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.
8

9 8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED
10 IN OTHER LITIGATION

11 If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation
12 that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as
13 "CONFIDENTIAL," that Party must:

14 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification
15 will include a copy of the subpoena or court order;

16 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or
17 order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the
18 subpoena or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification will include
19 a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order; and

20 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be
21 pursued by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

22 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served
23 with the subpoena or court order will not produce any information designated in
24 this action as "CONFIDENTIAL" before a determination by the court from which
25 the subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party's
26 permission. The Designating Party will bear the burden and expense of seeking
27 protection in that court of its confidential material and nothing in these provisions
28

1 should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action
2 to disobey a lawful directive from another court.
3

4 9. A NON-PARTY'S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE
5 PRODUCED IN THIS LITIGATION

6 (a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a
7 Non-Party in this Action and designated as "CONFIDENTIAL." Such information
8 produced by Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected by the
9 remedies and relief provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions should be
10 construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

11 (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to
12 produce a Non-Party's confidential information in its possession, and the Party is
13 subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party's
14 confidential information, then the Party will:

15 (1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-
16 Party that some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality
17 agreement with a Non-Party;

18 (2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Stipulated
19 Protective Order in this Action, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably
20 specific description of the information requested; and

21 (3) make the information requested available for inspection by the
22 Non-Party, if requested.

23 (c) If the Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court
24 within 14 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the
25 Receiving Party may produce the Non-Party's confidential information responsive
26 to the discovery request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the
27 Receiving Party will not produce any information in its possession or control that
28 is subject to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a

1 determination by the court. Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party
2 will bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in this court of its
3 Protected Material.
4

5 10. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

6 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has
7 disclosed Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized
8 under this Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately
9 (a) notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use
10 its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material,
11 (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of
12 all the terms of this Order, and (d) request such person or persons to execute the
13 "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as
14 Exhibit A.
15

16 11. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE
17 PROTECTED MATERIAL

18 When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain
19 inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other
20 protection, the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal
21 Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify
22 whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for
23 production without prior privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence
24 502(d) and (e), insofar as the parties reach an agreement on the effect of disclosure
25 of a communication or information covered by the attorney-client privilege or
26 work product protection, the parties may incorporate their agreement in the
27 stipulated protective order submitted to the court.
28

1 12. MISCELLANEOUS

2 12.1. Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any
3 person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

4 12.2. Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this
5 Protective Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to
6 disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in
7 this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on
8 any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective
9 Order.

10 12.3. Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any
11 Protected Material must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5. Protected Material
12 may only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the
13 specific Protected Material at issue. If a Party's request to file Protected Material
14 under seal is denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information
15 in the public record unless otherwise instructed by the court.
16

17 13. FINAL DISPOSITION

18 After the final disposition of this Action, as defined in paragraph 4, within
19 60 days of a written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must
20 return all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As
21 used in this subdivision, "all Protected Material" includes all copies, abstracts,
22 compilations, summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the
23 Protected Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the
24 Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if
25 not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that
26 (1) identifies (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was
27 returned or destroyed and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any
28 copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other format reproducing or

1 capturing any of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel
2 are entitled to retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial,
3 deposition, and hearing transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition
4 and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert
5 work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival
6 copies that contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this
7 Protective Order as set forth in Section 4 (DURATION).

8
9 14. Any willful violation of this Order may be punished by civil or criminal
10 contempt proceedings, financial or evidentiary sanctions, reference to disciplinary
11 authorities, or other appropriate action at the discretion of the Court.

12
13 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

14
15 DATED: April 1, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

PESSAH LAW GROUP, PC

17
18 By: /s/ Maurice D. Pessah
Maurice D. Pessah

19
20 *Attorneys for Plaintiff*
First American Cinema, LLC

21
22 DATED: April 1, 2019

NELSON MULLINS RILEY &
SCARBOROUGH LLP

23
24 By: /s/ Lauren A. Deeb
Lauren A. Deeb
Robert L. Hoegle

25
26 *Attorneys for Defendants*
UP Faith & Family, LLC and
Amazon.com, Inc.

1
2 DATED: April 1, 2019

HAMRICK & EVANS, LLP

3 By: /s/ Kenneth A. Kotarski
4 Martin J. Barab
5 A. Raymond Hamrick, III
6 Kenneth A. Kotarski
Jonathan Dutton

7 *Attorneys for Defendant*
8 *Crossclaimant, and Cross-*
9 *Defendant Screen Media Ventures,*
10 *LLC and Defendants Tribune*
11 *Media Company erroneously sued*
12 *as Tribune Media Company, Inc.*
13 *and WGN Continental*
14 *Broadcasting Company, LLC*

14 FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.

15
16 DATED: April 11, 2019

/s/ Judge Wilner

17 HON. MICHAEL R. WILNER
18 United States Magistrate Judge
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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [full name], of _____
[full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and
understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States
District Court for the Central District of California on [date] in the case of *First*
American Cinema, LLC v. Screen Media Ventures, LLC, et al., Case No.: 2:18-cv-
03703. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated
Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could
expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly
promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is
subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict
compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District
Court for the Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms
of this Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur
after termination of this action. I hereby appoint _____ [full
name] of _____ [full address and
telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection
with this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated
Protective Order.

Date: _____

City and State where signed: _____

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____